



## March 2017

### WARWICK BIBLE CHURCH—*Jody Phillips (photos by Cookie Onushko)*

At about 9:30 pm on April 2, 2016, a heavy-duty pickup truck, traveling east on South Chestnut Street at a high rate of speed, veered right off the roadway, crossed it just opposite the historic Warwick Bible Church, sped through several sections of iron fence and crashed into the south side of the church. The driver of the truck and her companion escaped with only minor injuries, but the front of the truck was smashed and wall of the church received major structural damage.

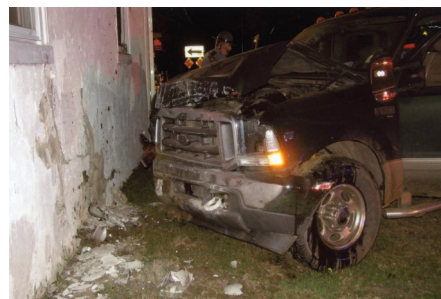
The next morning, inspectors determined that the wall had actually been moved by the impact, which had not only cracked the stucco from the base of the wall to the roofline but the stone underneath the stucco and the plaster on the interior wall as well. The church was closed until further notice and its small congregation moved its services and activities to Morgantown.

For many months the church sat empty and in the first week of January 2017, a Condemned notice appeared on its front door. A rumor had circulated that the church might be irreparable and might have to be torn down. However, on January 16, another large pickup truck was driven onto the church property, shortly followed by two more trucks and a big dumpster. A work crew quickly erected scaffolding and began the painstaking process of removing the stucco from the damaged portion of the wall.

By the end of the day, almost 40 percent of the original stonework underneath was exposed. Four tiers of red bricks were discovered lining the pointed arches of the two south-facing windows. (These Gothic-style, rough brick arches were made of rectangular bricks – not wedge-shaped bricks. The curve of the arch was made with mortar, which was a common building practice in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.) The interior of the wall was also repaired and an old dropped ceiling, originally installed to make the Sanctuary less drafty in the winter months, was removed.

The next task was to carefully remove each stone and brick and the windows and place them carefully on the scaffolding. This took about a week. Then, in the beginning of February, workers began to rebuild the wall, stone by stone and brick by brick, making sure it was sturdy and straight. As of February 15, the repairs are almost complete. The glass has to be re-installed in the windows and the site cleaned up

This church was built in 1883 for a little over \$2500, using some of the materials from the former United Brethren Church on Brick Lane. Its dimensions are 54 by 23 feet and it has always been heated by furnaces. Originally its front entrance extended upwards to include a bell tower, but this was damaged



*Continued on p 2.*



Continued from p 1.

when struck by lightning and was never replaced. After the United Brethren Church and the Methodist Conference merged, the local church in Elverson acquired the building and it was deeded to the Cemetery Commission of the large cemetery north of the church.

Six independent congregations have worshipped in this building since 1959. The Honey Brook Mennonites and Twin Valley Bible Chapel gathered at the church until they built their own churches. The Grace Full Gospel Church met there until they purchased a building up in the Welsh Mountains. Elverson's Community Evangelical Free Church worshipped there and later used it as an educational building and nursery, with the congregation worshipping in the Elverson Fire Hall until their new church was built on Brick Lane in 1987. Since then, it has been the home of the Warwick Bible Church.

If you are not in the habit of travelling on South Chestnut Street, a lovely, tree-lined road that connects Rte. 401 with Rte. 23, take a stroll down the sidewalk along its short half-mile stretch and admire Elverson's history at a leisurely pace. Explore Livingood Park and walk by the historic Warwick Bible Church and the recently repaired and remodeled Old Elverson Schoolhouse, which houses Elverson Borough Hall and a new Museum Room. Then continue on and stroll through the Elverson Methodist Cemetery. To me, this area is the heart of the Borough.

## WWW.ELVERSONBORO.ORG

We are excited to announce that Elverson Borough has a newly updated website covering a broad variety of information. You will find resources for Borough News and Services in addition to quick links on the Chester County website, Twin Valley School District, Twin Valley Fire Company, Elverson-Honey Brook EMS, and permit application forms.

**Seawolf Photography**, a local photographer located within the Borough, has generously donated some beautiful images now running on the site.

We are considering the implementation of a program which would allow you, our residents, the option of receiving the Newsletters through email. More information will follow on this new program.

The website will continue to grow with new data, resources, and images, with what we believe will be of value to you, our community. Is there something you would like to see on the site? Send an email to Lori Kolb, our Borough Secretary, at [secretary@elversonboro.org](mailto:secretary@elversonboro.org).

A brand new section will be entitled "Out and About Town". We are asking if you have any pictures or drawings you would like to share that have been taken around our Borough, please forward them electronically to [secretary@elversonboro.org](mailto:secretary@elversonboro.org), or drop them off at the Office to the Borough Secretary, Lori Kolb.

Check out the new site at [www.elversonboro.org](http://www.elversonboro.org).



# HELP US TO HELP YOU!

The Elverson-Honey Brook Area EMS 2017 Ambulance Membership Letter has recently been sent to all area residents.

★ **PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO FILL THIS OUT AND RETURN IT TO US** ★

## *Free Community CPR Classes*

We hold these classes a few times each year at Twin Valley Fire Department.

**NEXT CLASS: APRIL 22, 2017**

Call to reserve a spot, **610-286-8925** ext. 3

Class limited to the first 30 people to sign up.

If you haven't received your letter, print one out at

**[www.EHBEMS.org](http://www.EHBEMS.org)**

or call

**610-286-7944**



## How Well Do You Know Elverson Borough? *Jody Phillips*

Congratulations to John Mohl, Joyce Gondy and Linda Godschall, who knew that the object pictured in the January 2017 issue of the Elverson Borough Newsletter is a small crane used to lift a pump out of the ground at Pump Station #2 on Brick Lane, between Stable Drive and Main Street in Elverson. This station is one of several in the Borough that are part of the Elverson Municipal Sewer System and helps move sewage uphill to the main sewage plant at 40 North Chestnut Street. You can also see two underground holding tanks in the photo.

As an extra question this month, I am asking readers to tell me how many of these pump stations can be found in the Borough and where they are located. Not all of them are equipped with the lifting device.

This month's mystery photo is of a small but interesting part of the façade of a historic building, which should easily identify it for anyone familiar with the Borough. Please give me the address of the building and some information about its history to win a size Medium orange or size Small Elverson Day tee shirt.

Email me at Jodysfritz@gmail.com or call me at 610-286-8913. Telephone messages can get lost or garbled so email is preferable. The deadline for your answer is March 15, 2017 as the Newsletter moves to a bimonthly schedule.



## Elverson Veterans' Gift Drive Over 1,500 Gifts Delivered—*Betty Shaw*

Christmas at the Coatesville V.A. Medical Center was very special this year thanks to the residents of Elverson. The last few years have been very successful and we were able to provide over 300 gifts one year and last year we reached the unbelievable number of 702 gifts. This year we partnered again with the company I work for, TMACC and their members. On Monday, December 19, 2016 we delivered over 1,500 gifts! We filled two buses with gifts and once again we were able to help three different divisions of the V.A. Approximately 96 Veterans were housed in Chester County this year and you were a very large part of the effort to help furnish their homes.

Some of the gifts donated were 40 lap blankets and shawls made by the "Summerfield Stitchers", toothpaste and toothbrushes from Dr. Wallace and Wolitarsky, and a very generous check from the Twin Valley Rotary Club in memory of David Ballantyne, a Chaplain at the medical center who passed away in October 2015, a \$100 gift card from Walmart in Elverson along with several very generous checks from individuals in the community, all of which were used to purchase gifts and were added to the continuous flow of packages that arrived on my front porch daily beginning around Thanksgiving. We received a check from a World War

II Veteran as well as a Purple Heart recipient of the Korean War.

This gift drive could not have been possible without the incredible participation and generosity of all of the members of our amazing Elverson community. For those who contributed money, thank you for trusting me with the honor and responsibility of shopping for you. For those who purchased gifts, thank you! Every gift found a home and helped to make Christmas for our Vets one they will long remember.

I look forward to working with each of you again when we start the drive for 2017! Happy New Year to all of you and Thank You for making Christmas 2016 for our Vets the best one yet!!



### ELVERSON EVENTS

**Daylight Savings**—Sunday, March 12

**Elverson Egg Hunt**—Saturday, April 8  
Livingood Park—10 am

**Street Sweeping**—Monday, April 17 & Tuesday, April 18—Please park off street on these days!

**Elverson Yard Sale**—Saturday, May 20  
All over town—8 am

**Memorial Day Observance**—Monday, May 29—Elverson Cemetery—10:30 am

**Elverson Day**—Saturday, June 24  
Livingood Park—5 pm



## WE NEED A NAME

After months of discussions, decisions, repairs and renovations, the north (front) room of the old Elverson Grade School on South Chestnut Street is ready to be used by Borough residents for meetings and presentations and to safely house the Borough's many artifacts and memories from the past 150 years. The Elverson Historical Commission is currently asking for suggestions for a name for this newly purposed room.

Meeting Room - Conference Room – Historical  
Commission Room – Museum Room –  
or something else??

What would you name a new meeting room at  
Borough Hall?

*Complete the form below and drop off at the Borough Office on Chestnut Street or email to our Borough secretary at [secretary@elversonboro.org](mailto:secretary@elversonboro.org) by March 15th. Questions? Email Elverson Historical Commission Chairperson Chris Cameron – [chrisdcameron@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisdcameron@yahoo.com).*

Your Name

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Your Address

---

Name for New Room

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## HENRIETTA HANKIN BRANCH LIBRARY—*Beverly Lawler*

As I write this, we have just enjoyed a warm spell, but I'm expecting winter to return with a vengeance. When it does, stop in at the library for a good book or movie. We are located at 215 Windgate Drive in Chester Springs.

Bring your children into story times. Everybody is welcome at Mah Jongg on Tuesday afternoons and the Bridge Group on Wednesday afternoons. AARP will be doing personal taxes, for free, starting February 10<sup>th</sup>.

I'd like to highlight Flipster which provides home access to magazines. To access go to <http://chescolibraries.org/downloads>. Flipster allows you to read the digital



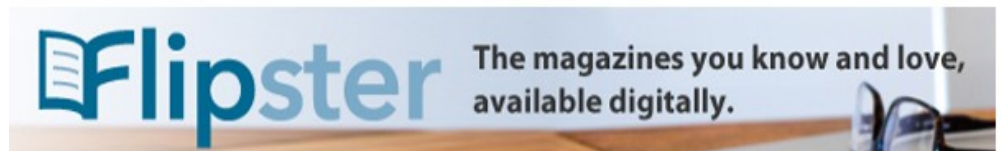
## What Is Smart911?

What if there's a fire, a medical emergency, or a child goes missing? When you dial 9-1-1 under stress, you may not have access to important details, or you may have trouble remembering them. Smart911 is a new service in Chester County that allows you to create a Safety Profile at [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com) that includes details you want the 9-1-1 center and public safety response teams to know about your household in an emergency. When you dial 9-1-1, from a phone associated with your Safety Profile, that information automatically displays to the 9-1-1 call takers, allowing them to send responders based on up-to-date location and emergency information. With your Safety Profile, responders can arrive aware of many details they would not otherwise know. Fire crews can arrive knowing exactly how many people live in your home and where the bedrooms are located. EMS personnel can know family members' allergies or specific medical conditions. And police can access a photo of a missing family member in seconds rather than minutes or hours, helping the search start faster.



magazines we subscribe to from your home computer, tablet or phone. Some of the titles we have are: Bon Appetit, InStyle, Car and Driver, County Living, Craft Ideas, Real Simple and Food Network. You'll see the magazines in full color. This resource is very convenient, especially on a snowy day.

I hope to see you in the library soon.





**Dr. Leo McCormick  
Dr. Darryl Hajduczek  
Dr. Leslie Freeman**

92 Kemp Road  
Pottstown, PA 19465  
(p) 610-705-0201  
(f) 610-705-0180

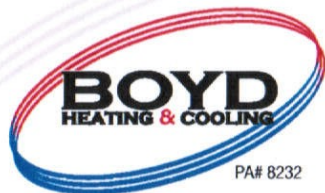
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Elverson, PA 19520  
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(f) 610-286-7003

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## PHOENIX Rehabilitation & Health Services

**PHYSICAL THERAPY, HAND THERAPY & MORE ...**

**(610) 286-0977**

**Heritage Medical Center**  
21 S Pine St., Elverson



[phoenixrehab.com](http://phoenixrehab.com)

**PHOENIX**  
Rehabilitation and Health Services, Inc.

If you would like to see your business card in this newsletter, please contact our Borough office by calling **610.286.6420** or emailing **secretary@elversonboro.org** for details.

It is a win/win as your business gets local exposure and your contribution supports this free publication which is mailed to all Borough households bimonthly.

**Send your Elverson news and stories to our editor at [brenda@stoltzfus.com](mailto:brenda@stoltzfus.com) by April 15 or call her at 610.286.5115. Newsletters can be found on [elversonboro.org](http://elversonboro.org).**

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Elverson PA 19520

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## ELVERSON'S EASTER EGG HUNT

*Esther Prosser*

It's an annual Elverson tradition at our beautiful Livingood Park—the Twin Valley Firefighters arrive on a fire truck, the Easter bunny miraculously shows up with them and 1,000+ eggs are hidden throughout the grounds. It's the Elverson Easter Egg Hunt scheduled this year for the Saturday before Easter weekend—**Saturday, April 8 beginning at 10 am.**

There is a free event open to Elverson residents, their families and friends. The egg hunt will be for children ten years of age and younger. Families can find the *electronic registration link on the Elverson Borough website—[elversonboro.org](http://elversonboro.org)*. It is important to register children for the egg hunt so that we can provide enough Easter eggs for everyone. Please bring a basket or bag for each child participating in the hunt.

Although the Easter egg hunt is a free event, we will be asking for a \$2 donation per child which will benefit the

Twin Valley Fire Company. We appreciate parents bringing this to the table when signing in the day of the hunt.



Jenny Cameron, a young, energetic Elverson mother has spearheaded this event the last few years and under her leadership, it has grown. *Volunteers are needed.* We are looking for someone to be the Easter bunny. The costume will be provided. What an opportunity not only to ride on a fire truck, but also to sit with young kids and pose for pictures? And no one will know you are anybody but the Easter bunny! We are also look-

ing for people to serve as hunt leaders the day of the event. One more thing—if you have plastic eggs stuffed away somewhere in your house from prior year's hunts, please drop them off at the Borough Hall by April 1 and we will reuse them.

If you would like to be involved, please contact me—[esther@stoltzfus.com](mailto:esther@stoltzfus.com) or 484.269.7153. I hope to see all of you on Saturday morning, April 8 at 10 am. Happy Easter!